

SIM Brief Screening Questions

The intent of brief social determinants of health screening is to establish a routinized process through which providers identify (in an actionable manner) social barriers their attributed patient population is facing. Accordingly, the brief screening will not take the place of deeper, more comprehensive assessment processes utilized as part of care management or mandated by other programs, but it should inform those processes

The PCMH Initiative is providing this template screening tool to participating providers, however this tool can be altered to match local needs (e.g. changing how questions are phrased, varying how questions are categorized in domains, choosing different formats to administer the screening such as an EHR template or incorporating into existing patient questionnaires etc.)

- PCMHs are discouraged from completely removing one or more of the topics/domains contained in the template, although combining and/or rearranging domains is permitted
- PCMHs located in SIM/CHIR regions should work with their CHIRs (typically through a PO) to use the brief screening tool the CHIR in your area has/is developing

Domain	Question	Response	
Healthcare	In the past month, did poor physical or mental health keep you from doing your usual activities, like work, school or a hobby?	Yes	No
	In the past year, was there a time when you needed to see a doctor but could not because it cost too much?	Yes	No
Food	Do you ever eat less than you feel you should because there is not enough food?	Yes	No
Employment & Income	Do you have a job or other steady source of income?	Yes	No
Housing & Shelter	Are you worried that in the next few months, you may not have safe housing that you own, rent, or share?	Yes	No
Utilities	In the past year, have you had a hard time paying your utility company bills?	Yes	No
Childcare	Does getting child care make it hard for you to work, go to school or study?	Yes	No
Education	Do you think completing more education or training, like finishing a GED, going to college, or learning a trade, would be helpful for you?	Yes	No
Transportation	Do you have a dependable way to get to work or school and your appointments?	Yes	No
Clothing & Household	Do you have enough household supplies? For example, clothing, shoes, blankets, mattresses, diapers, toothpaste, and shampoo.	Yes	No
General	Would you like to receive assistance with any of these needs?	Yes	No
	Are any of your needs urgent?	Yes	No